

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 02964 121634Z

71

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /051 W

----- 084056

R 121358Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7648

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 2964

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, SY

SUBJECT: SYRIAN BLACKLISTING OF JOURNALISTS

REF: (A) BEIRUT 4044 (B) DAMASCUS 2822,

1. TOLD FONMIN KHADDAM MAY 11 I UNDERSTOOD THAT THREE U.S. JOURNALISTS HAD RECENTLY BEEN PLACED ON SYRIAN BLACKLIST. SAID I WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH REASONS FOR THIS ACTION BUT WANTED TO SHARE PERSONAL OPINION WITH FONMIN THAT:

(A) SYRIA HAS GAINED IMMENSELY BY OPEN DOOR POLICY FOR JOURNALISTS WHICH HAS BEEN IN EFFECT SINCE MY ARRIVAL HERE IN 1974.

(B) EACH MAN REPORTEDLY BLACKLISTED REPRESENTS IMPORTANT U.S. MEDIA OUTLET. (WASH POST, LA TIMES, AP).

(C) ANY DECISION TO BLACKLIST THESE INDIVIDUALS SHOULD BE KEPT UNDER CONTINUOUS REVIEW.

2. FONMIN REPLIED HE AGREED WITH EACH POINT AND ASKED THAT I FURNISH HIS SECRETARY NAMES OF THOSE BLACKLISTED AND HE WOULD TAKE MATTER UP WITH MINISTER OF INFORMATION.

3. WHILE DECISION TO BLACKLIST MAY NOT HAVE BEEN TAKEN IN MININFO, IT CAN ONLY HELP TO HAVE KHADDAM WEIGH IN ON THIS ONE.  
MURPHY

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NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INFORMATION CONTROL, JOURNALISTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 MAY 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** vogelfj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
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**Reference:** 76 DAMASCUS 2822, 76 BEIRUT 4044  
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**Review Authority:** vogelfj  
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**Review Date:** 21 JUN 2004  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SYRIAN BLACKLISTING OF JOURNALISTS  
**TAGS:** PINS, SOPN, SY, US  
**To:** SECSTATE WASHDC BEIRUT USIA  
**Type:** TE  
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